

**My second Advent Message:
Notes from the 2nd Sunday Homily.**

St. Luke's Gospel: By naming places and historical figures during the time of John Baptist; Luke sets John up as a historical figure in human time and space.

-In the Desert and in silence, John the Baptist was able to hear God's voice and begin his public ministry proclaiming a Baptism of repentance / St. Paul also began his ministry in the silence of the desert / Many Saints have found refuge by visiting the silence of the desert.

This message of Repentance:

-Through John's Baptism of Repentance: The Holy Spirit shows us right from wrong / And by knowing our weaknesses by discerning God's voice, we can give to the Divine Physician what areas keep us away from God's love, and are in need of healing / In a gentle voice God says: You are loved but these things are wrong / They are keeping you from my love.

-This Advent, find your desert and place of silence / Where you can go for five minutes to escape the noise of the world / From our gadgets or the internet / To know & hear God / To repent and know right from wrong.

-Through Mass / Confession / Silence / God wants to order us to reality and truth of our lives / To know who we are.

-Our decisions and existence are centered on facts and not emotion and how something makes us feel / To know what leads us to God and truth and renewal and what are the lies that will keep us from God, love, and renewal.

-And by our Repentance Saint Paul tells us Jesus' work is being completed in us / What a gift / With Fortitude we will be completed and fulfilled one day in Christ Jesus.

Notes:

As we head into the shortest days of the year, the darkness takes a toll on our minds and souls – as well as our bodies. The winter nights are also a metaphor for the world's darkness – and deep need for the coming light of Christ at Christmas / So we can see and repent of our errors and find a deeper freedom and purpose.

-Pray your Rosary.

-Confession gives spiritual vision

-God is asking us to be faithful.

-Know the Catechism / At least have a copy

Vivat Jesus

Father Vic Gournas